

JOINT
PUBLIC NOTICE

CHARLESTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
69A Hagood Avenue
Charleston, South Carolina 29403-5107

and
THE S.C. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL
Office of Environmental Quality Control
Water Quality Certification and Wetlands Programs Section
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

REGULATORY DIVISION
Refer to: P/N #2002-1U-193-C

17 May 2002

Pursuant to Sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), and the South Carolina Coastal Zone Management Act (48-39-10 et seq.) an application has been submitted to the Department of the Army and the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control by

BEAUFORT-JASPER WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY
C/O MR. ED SAXON
P.O. DRAWER 2149
BEAUFORT, SOUTH CAROLINA 29901-2149

for a permit to place fill material in wetlands adjacent to the

SAVANNAH RIVER

at a location east of Purrysburg Road and south of the Beaufort-Jasper Water and Sewer Authority raw water canal approximately 4.8 miles north of Hardeeville in Jasper County, South Carolina (Latitude 32.35361 N, Longitude 81.11972 W).

In order to give all interested parties an opportunity to express their views

NOTICE

is hereby given that written statements regarding the proposed work will be received by both of the above mentioned offices until

12 O'CLOCK NOON, MONDAY, 17 JUNE 2002

from those interested in the activity and whose interests may be affected by the proposed work.

The proposed work consists of constructing a 60-acre raw water reservoir, requiring impacts to 5.42 acres of jurisdictional, adjacent wetlands. In detail, 0.401 acres will be filled to construct berms and an additional 5.02 acres will be excavated. The applicant proposes to mitigate for adverse impacts to aquatic resources by preserving the remaining 46 acres of mature wetlands and 21.8 acres of adjacent upland buffer of an average width of 57.8 feet at a location within the property boundary. The mitigation areas will be protected in perpetuity through restrictive covenants. The purpose of the proposed work is to provide an additional water supply for the western portion of the BJWSA service area and to serve as a backup water supply for a proposed treatment plant that will be constructed adjacent to the proposed raw water reservoir.

17 May 2002

NOTE: An alternatives analysis and endangered species report have also been prepared by the applicant for the proposed project. These documents are available for review Monday through Friday during normal business hours. Please contact Tracy Hurst at 843/329-8103 to schedule an appointment.

NOTE: Plans depicting the work described in this notice are available and will be provided, upon receipt of a written request, to anyone that is interested in obtaining a copy of the plans for the specific project. The request must identify the project of interest by public notice number and a self-addressed stamped envelope must also be provided for mailing the drawings to you. Your request for drawings should be addressed to the

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
ATTN: REGULATORY DIVISION
69A Hagood Avenue
Charleston, South Carolina 29403-5107.**

The District Engineer has concluded that the discharges associated with this project, both direct and indirect, should be reviewed by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control in accordance with provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. As such, this notice constitutes a request, on behalf of the applicant, for certification that this project will comply with applicable effluent limitations and water quality standards. The work shown on this application must also be certified as consistent with applicable provisions of the South Carolina Coastal Zone Management Act (15 CFR 930). The District Engineer will not process this application to a conclusion until such certifications are received. The applicant is hereby advised that supplemental information may be required by the State to facilitate the review. Persons wishing to comment or object to State certification must submit all comments in writing to the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control at the above address within thirty (30) days of the date of this notice.

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Implementation of the proposed project would impact 5.02 acres of freshwater habitat upstream of estuarine substrates and emergent wetlands utilized by various life stages of species comprising the red drum, shrimp, and snapper-grouper management complexes. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would not have a substantial individual or cumulative adverse impact on EFH or fisheries managed by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Our final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the NMFS.

The District Engineer has consulted the most recently available information and has determined that the project will have no effect on any Federally endangered, threatened, or proposed species and will not result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated or proposed critical habitat. This public notice serves as a request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service for any additional information they may have on whether any listed or proposed endangered or threatened species or designated or proposed critical habitat may be present in the area which would be affected by the activity, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (as amended).

The District Engineer has consulted the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places for the presence or absence of registered properties, or properties listed as being eligible for inclusion therein, and this worksite is not included as a registered property or property listed as being eligible for inclusion in the Register. Consultation of the National Register constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the District Engineer, and he is otherwise unaware of the presence of such resources. Presently unknown archaeological, scientific, prehistorical, or historical data may be lost or destroyed by the work to be accomplished under the requested permit.


17 May 2002

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for a public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the activity on the public interest and will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act and, as appropriate, the criteria established under authority of Section 102 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, as amended. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the project must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the project will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. A permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest. In cases of conflicting property rights, the Corps of Engineers cannot undertake to adjudicate rival claims.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this project. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the activity.

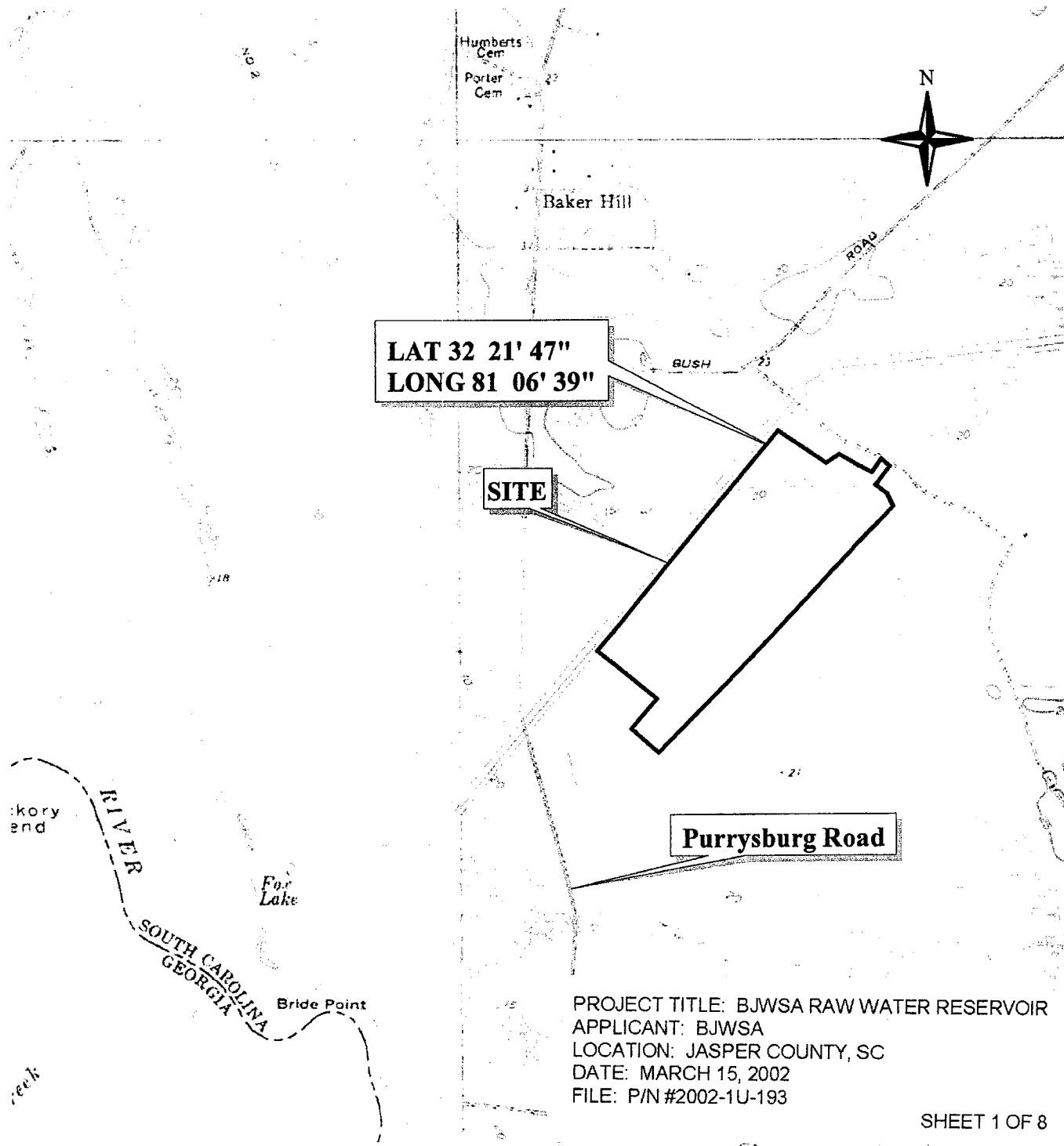
If there are any questions concerning this public notice, please contact me at 843-329-8044 or toll free at 1-866-329-8187.


for Tracy Hurst
Project Manager
Regulatory Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Site Location Map

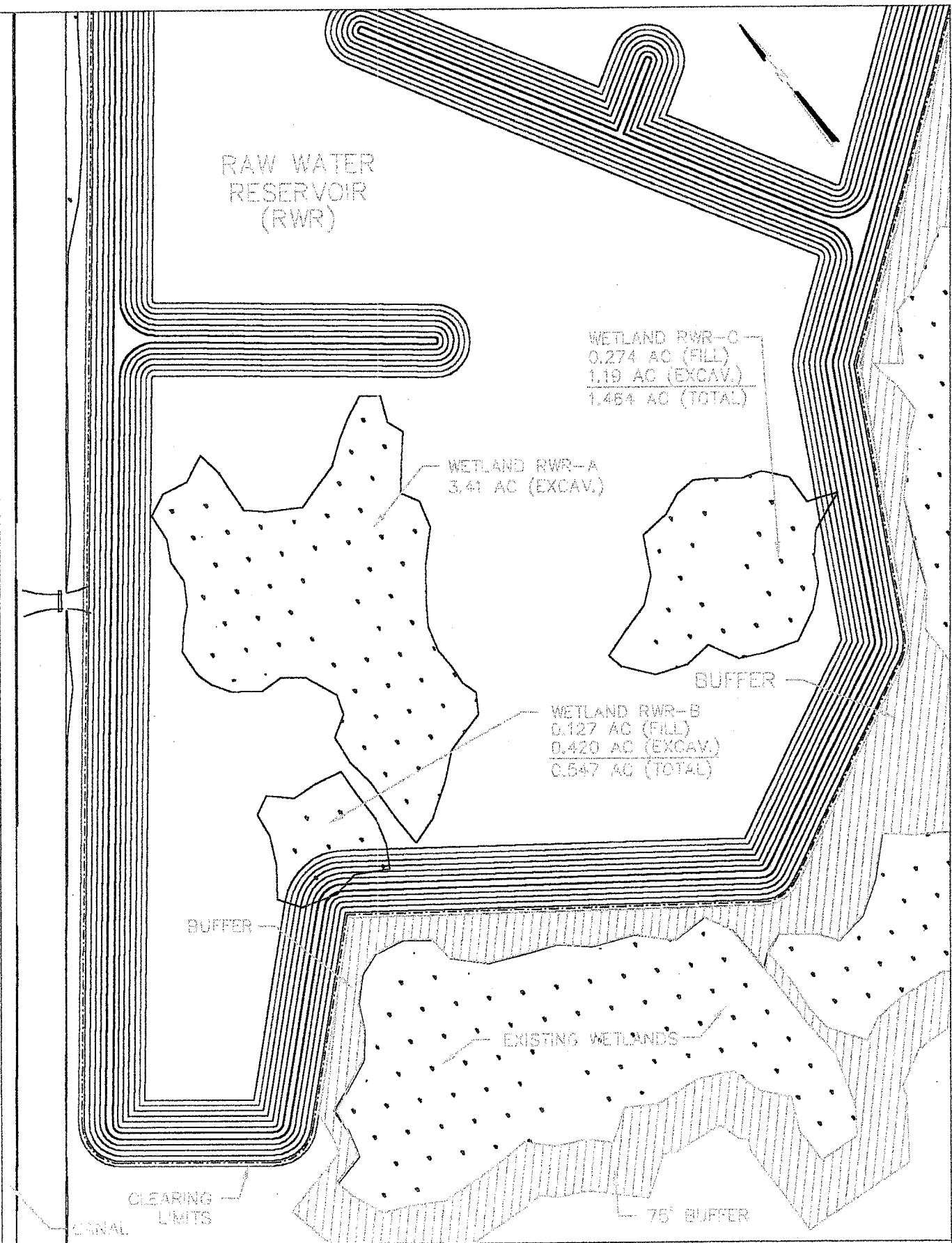
U.S. Geological Survey

Hardeeville Quadrangle



BJWSA Raw Water Reservoir Site

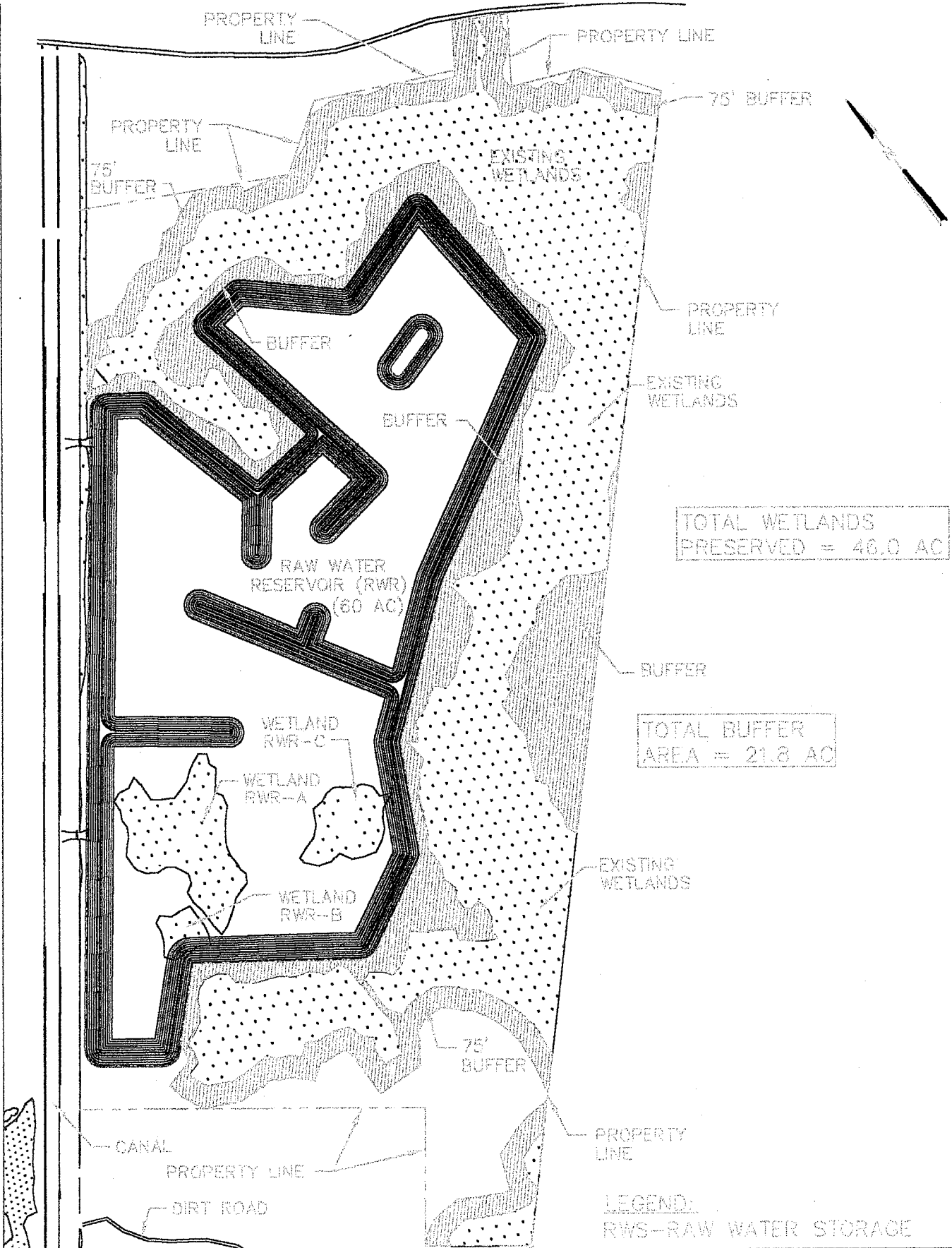
Jasper County, South Carolina



PROJECT TITLE: BJWSA RAW WATER RESERVOIR
 APPLICANT: BJWSA
 LOCATION: JASPER COUNTY, SC
 DATE: MARCH 15, 2002
 FILE: P/N #2002-1U-193

WATER TREATMENT PLANT
 WATER & SEWER AUTHORITY
 RAW WATER RESERVOIR
 -A, RWR-B, RWR-C

DATE: 03-15-02
 SCALE: 1"=200'
 JOB NO.: 2104-032
 FIGURE 2



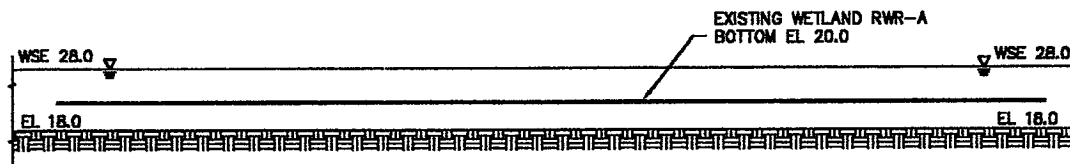
PROJECT TITLE: BJWSA RAW WATER RESERVOIR
 APPLICANT: BJWSA
 LOCATION: JASPER COUNTY, SC
 DATE: MARCH 15, 2002
 FILE: P/N #2002-1U-193

DATE : 03-15-02
 SCALE : 1"=500'
 JOB NO.: 2104-032

FIGURE 1

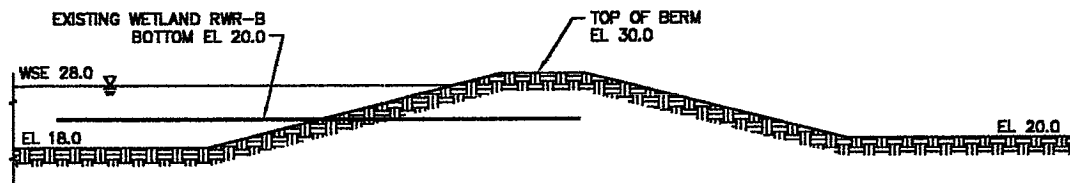
EARTHWORK SUMMARY			
WETLAND	ESTIMATED ACREAGE DISTURBED	ESTIMATED VOLUME EXCAVATED (C.Y.)	ESTIMATED VOLUME FILL (C.Y.)
RWR-A	3.41	11,000	0
RWR-B	0.547	1350	300
RWR-C	1.46	4570	160

EARTHWORK SUMMARY



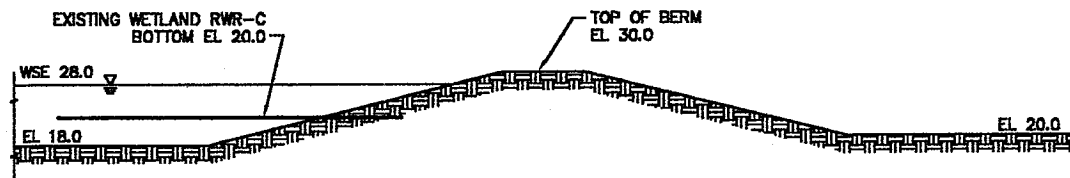
RWR-A SECTION

NTS



RWR-B SECTION

NTS



RWR-C SECTION

NTS



PROJECT TITLE: BJWSA RAW WATER RESERVOIR
 APPLICANT: BJWSA
 LOCATION: JASPER COUNTY, SC
 DATE: MARCH 15, 2002
 FILE: P/N #2002-1U-193

DATE: 03-15-02
 SCALE: NTS
 JOB NO: 2104-032

FIGURE 3

Compensatory Mitigation Credit Factors and Worksheets

ADVERSE IMPACT FACTORS

Factors	Options						
Magnitude	$0.05 \times \sum AA_i$ (rounded to the nearest tenth decimal place)						
Dominant Effect	Fill 2.0	Impound 1.8	Dredge 1.6	Drain 1.4	Flood 1.2	Clear 1.0	Shade 0.5
Duration of Effects		7+ years 2.0	5-7 years 1.5	3-5 years 1.0	1-3 years 0.5	0-1 years 0.1	Seasonal 0.1
Existing Conditions		Class 1 2.0	Class 2 1.5	Class 3 1.0	Class 4 0.5	Class 5 0.3	Class 6 0.1
Rarity Ranking			Imperiled †	Vulnerable †	Rare 2.0	Uncommon 0.5	Common 0.1
Lost Kind			Kind A 2.0	Kind B 1.5	Kind C 1.0	Kind D 0.5	Kind E 0.1
Preventability				High 2.0	Moderate 1.0	Low 0.5	None 0

† These factors are determined on a case-by-case basis.

The following definition is reproduced here for ready reference.

Magnitude is an evaluation of the cumulative adverse impacts to aquatic sites for the overall project. This factor is proportional to the acres of impact. The formula used to calculate this value is $0.05 \times \sum AA_i$ where $\sum AA_i$ stands for the sum of acres of adverse impacts to aquatic areas for the overall project. When computing this value, round to the nearest tenth decimal place using even number rounding. For example, 0.01 and 0.050 are rounded down to give a value of zero while 0.051 and 0.09 are rounded up to give 0.1 as the value for the magnitude factor.

Required Mitigation Credits Sample Worksheet

Factor	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5	Area 6
Magnitude	0.3	0.3				
Dominant Effect	2.0	1.6				
Duration	2.0	2.0				
Existing Condition	0.5	0.5				
Rarity Ranking	0.1	0.1				
Lost Kind	1.5	1.5				
Preventability	0.5	0.5				
Sum of r Factors	$R_1=6.9$	$R_2=6.5$	$R_3=$	$R_4=$	$R_5=$	$R_6=$
Impacted Area	$AA_1=0.401$	$AA_2=5.02$	$AA_3=$	$AA_4=$	$AA_5=$	$AA_6=$
R x AA	2.8	32.6				

Total Required Credits = $\sum (R \times AA) =$ 35.4

Area 1 = Isolated Wetland Fill
Area 2 = Isolated Wetland Excavation

PROJECT TITLE: BWSA RAW WATER RESERVOIR
 APPLICANT: BJWSA
 LOCATION: JASPER COUNTY, SC
 DATE: MARCH 15, 2002
 FILE: PIN #2002-1U-193

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Compensatory Mitigation Credit Factors and Worksheets

RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT MITIGATION FACTORS

Factors	Options				
	Modest Enhancement	Excellent Restoration			
Net Improvement	0.1 -----	to	-----	2.0	
Soils		N.A. 0	U.S.S. 0	T.S.S. 0.1	E.S.S.† 0.3
Hydrology		N.A. 0	Mechanical 0	Created 0.1	Natural† 0.3
Vegetation			N.A. 0	Natural† 0.1	Planted 0.3
Maintenance		N.A. † 0	Moderate 0	Low 0.1	None 0.3
Monitoring & Contingencies Plan	N.A. † 0	Minimum 0.1	Moderate 0.2	Substantial 0.3	Strong 0.4
Credits Schedule	Schedule 5 0	Schedule 4 0.1	Schedule 3 0.2	Schedule 2 0.3	Schedule 1 0.4
Kind	Category 5 0.1	Category 4 0.2	Category 3 0.3	Category 2 0.4	Category 1 0.5
Location	Zone 5 0.1	Zone 4 0.2	Zone 3 0.3	Zone 2 0.4	Zone 1 0.5

N.A. = Not Applicable

† Use this option to calculate credits for enhancement by buffering.

Proposed Restoration or Enhancement Mitigation Sample Worksheet

Factor	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5
Net Improvements	0.3				
Soils	0.3				
Hydrology	0.3				
Vegetation	0.1				
Maintenance	0.0				
M & C Plan	0.0				
Credit Schedule	0.4				
Kind	0.5				
Location	0.5				
Sum of m Factors	M ₁ = 2.4	M ₂ =	M ₃ =	M ₄ =	M ₅ =
Mitigation Area	A ₁ = 21.8	A ₂ =	A ₃ =	A ₄ =	A ₅ =
M x A	52.3				

Total Restoration/Enhancement Credits = $\Sigma (M \times A) =$

52.3

PROJECT TITLE: BJWSA RAW WATER RESERVOIR
 APPLICANT: BJWSA
 LOCATION: JASPER COUNTY, SC
 DATE: MARCH 15, 2002
 FILE: P/N #2002-1U-193

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Compensatory Mitigation Credit Factors and Worksheets

PRESERVATION MITIGATION FACTORS

Factors	Options					
Control	Subdivided 0.1	Private 0.2	POA 0.3	Conservancy 0.4		
Degree of Threat	None 0	Low 0	Moderate 0.1	High 0.2		
Kind	Buffers [†] 0	Category 5 0	Category 4 0.1	Category 3 0.2	Category 2 0.3	Category 1 0.4
Location	Buffers [†] 0	Zone 5 0	Zone 4 0.1	Zone 3 0.2	Zone 2 0.3	Zone 1 0.4

[†] When allowed, upland buffers are given a value of zero for kind and location factors.

The following definitions are reproduced here for ready reference.

Category 1 is **In-Kind for non-mitigation banks** and is specially defined for mitigation banks.

Category 2 is defined for each mitigation bank following an assessment of the bank.

Category 3 is defined for each mitigation bank following an assessment of the bank.

Category 4 is **Out-of-Kind for non-mitigation banks** and is specially defined for mitigation banks.

Category 5 is defined for each mitigation bank following an assessment of the bank.

Zone 1 means **On-Site for non-mitigation banks** and is specially defined for mitigation banks.

Zone 2 means **Inside for non-mitigation banks** and is specially defined for mitigation banks.

Zone 3 is defined for each mitigation bank following an assessment of the bank.

Zone 4 means **Outside for non-mitigation banks** and is specially defined for mitigation banks.

Zone 5 is defined for each mitigation bank following an assessment of the bank.

When an exception is approved to allow mitigation credit for buffer zones, the buffers are given a value of zero for the kind and location factors. Mitigation Banks shall not be used as compensatory mitigation for impacts which do not clearly fit into one of the defined categories or which are outside of the bank's defined zones unless approved on a case specific basis.

Proposed Preservation Mitigation Sample Worksheet

Factor	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Ar
Control	0.2				
Threat	0.1				
Kind	0.4				
Location	0.4				
Sum of m Factors	M ₁ = 1.1	M ₂ =	M ₃ =	M ₄ =	M ₅ =
Mitigation Area	A ₁ = 24.2	A ₂ =	A ₃ =	A ₄ =	A ₅ =
M x A					

Total Preservation Credits = $\Sigma (M \times A) =$

26.6

PROJECT TITLE: BWSA RAW WATER RESERVOIR
 APPLICANT: BWSA
 LOCATION: JASPER COUNTY, SC
 DATE: MARCH 15, 2002
 FILE: P/N #2002-1U-193

SHEET 7 OF 8

**Compensatory Mitigation
Credit Factors and Worksheets**

Mitigation Summary Worksheet for Permit Application # _____

I. Required Mitigation

A. Total Required Mitigation Credits = **35.4**

II. Non-Banking Mitigation Credit Summary

	Credits	Acres
B. Creation		
C. Restoration and/or Enhancement	52.3	21.8
D. Total No Net Loss Non-Bank Mitigation = B + C	52.3	21.8
E. Preservation	26.6	24.2
F. Total Proposed Non-Bank Mitigation = D + E	78.9	46.0

III. Banking Mitigation Credit Summary

	Credits	Acres
G. Creation		
H. Restoration and/or Enhancement		
I. Total No Net Loss Non-Bank Mitigation = G + H		
J. Preservation		
K. Total Proposed Non-Bank Mitigation = I + J		

IV. Grand Totals

	Credits	Acres
L. Total Preservation Mitigation = E + J	26.6	24.2
M. Total Non-Preservation Mitigation = D + I	52.3	21.8
N. Total Proposed Mitigation = F + K	78.9	46.0

The total Mitigation Credits (Row N) should be equal to or greater than the total Required Mitigation Credits (Row A) for the proposed mitigation to be acceptable. The other requirements given in the S must also be satisfied, e.g., Row M must equal at least 50% of Row A, etc. If the answer to either of questions below is no, then the proposed mix and/or quantity of mitigation is not in compliance with policy and the plan should be revised or rejected, unless a variance is approved.

	Yes	No
$PMC \geq RMC$ or in words Are the Credits in Row N greater than or equal to Row A?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
$PMC_{Non-Preservation} \geq 1/2 RMC$ or in words Are the Credits in Row M greater than or equal to 50% of Row A?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

PROJECT TITLE: BJWSA RAW WATER RESERVOIR
 APPLICANT: BJWSA
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